

Dear Members of Labor and Public Employees Committee of the Connecticut General Assembly:

My name is Brittany Crockett and I live in New Britain, Connecticut. I support Senate Bill No. 1178: *An Act Expanding Connecticut Paid Sick Days*.

I work in non profit. My sick time comes out of my accrued PTO. My PTO should be separate from sick time.

I work hard to get a couple of hours of PTO every 2 weeks and I believe it should be used at my own discretion, not watch it disappear because I got sick.

I work in mental health in the public every day, as hard as I try, I am at a higher risk for illness than other jobs.

I shouldn't be punished because of the healing and helpful work that I provide.

This is why I support Senate Bill 1178: *AN ACT EXPANDING CONNECTICUT PAID SICK DAYS* and need a paid sick days law that:

1. Cover all workers regardless of employer size or industry!
2. Eliminates the waiting period to take a paid sick day from 680 hours to immediately after you start working!
3. Include all types of family structures and relationships which will allow workers to care for a child of any age, as well as their chosen family! The bill would also allow you to take paid sick time to care for a family member who experiences family violence or sexual assault.
4. Increase the number of hours of paid sick time workers can accrue and use per year from 40 to 80 hours.
5. Protect against future pandemics by allowing paid sick time to be used when a worker's place of work or child's school/place of care is closed by public officials for a public health emergency!

Thank you for your time,
Brittany Crockett New Britain, CT